

Hongkong Telegraph

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1894.

THIRTY DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

Banks.

THE MERCHANTS BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.
AUTHORISED CAPITAL £1,500,000
SUBSCRIBED £1,185,000

BANKERS:
LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LIMITED.
INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNTS at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—
For 12 Months.....5 per cent.
" 6 ".....4 " "
" 3 ".....3 " "
JOHN THURBURN,
Manager, Hongkong.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1894. [20]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.
Authorised Capital £1,000,000
Subscribed Capital £500,000
HEAD OFFICE:—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors:—
D. Gillies, Esq. (Chairman),
Chun Tung Shing, Esq.,
Chan K. Shan, Esq.,
H. Stollerfoth, Esq.,
Chief Manager,
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Branches:—London, Yokohama, Shanghai and Amoy.

BANKERS:—
The Commercial Bank of Scotland,
Paris Banking Co., and The Alliance Bank (Ld.)
Interest for 12 months Fixed, 5 per cent.
Hongkong, 16th November, 1893. [7]

THE BANK OF CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS, LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £2,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP £251,093.15.0

BANKERS:
CAPITAL & COUNTIES BANK, LIMITED.
HEAD OFFICE:
No. 3, PRINCE'S STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES:
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI.

AGENCIES:
PENANG, SINGAPORE AND YOKOHAMA.

RATES OF INTEREST.
ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNTS and Fixed Deposits can be ascertained on application.
Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

CHANTREY INCHBALD,
Manager.
Hongkong, 6th November, 1893. [210]

Insurances.

THE STANDARD.
ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE.

1. AMONG THE MANY ADVANTAGES of this form of Assurance, the following may be mentioned:—

- (a)—It secures an immediate Provision for wife and family or other relatives in event of early death.
- (b)—It provides a Fund for Retirement.
- (c)—It supplies an excellent Investment for the regular accumulation of small fixed sums of money.
- (d)—The Surrender and loan values are larger than under ordinary Policies.

2. AFTER THE POLICY HAS BEEN THREE YEARS IN FORCE—should the Policy-holder wish to discontinue future payments—he will be entitled to receive, on application, a FREE PAID-UP POLICY for a proportionate amount of the Sum Assured, as explained in the Prospectus.

Full particulars on application,
DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,
Agents,
STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.
Hongkong, 8th August, 1893. [747]

NOTICE.
THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED £1,000,000
The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.

HEAD OFFICE:
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.
Hongkong, 24th November, 1893. [150]

GENERAL NOTICE

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED).

CAPITAL TAELS 600,000 } \$333,333.33-
EQUAL TO } \$318,000.00.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
LEE SING, Esq.,
LOU TSE SHUN, Esq.,
LO YU MOON, Esq.,

MANAGER—HO AMEL.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.
Hongkong, 17th December, 1893. [974]

Intimations.

GOVERNMENT BILLS.

TENDERS for SPECIE—MEXICAN DOLLARS Current in this Colony, and weighing 7.17, in Exchange for Sterling Bills drawn at 10 days sight on the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, London, will be received by the Chief Paymaster, Army Pay Department, until 10.30 A.M. on TUESDAY, the 10th April, 1894.

The Tenders to state the total amount required (in Pounds Sterling), and the amount for which each Bill should be drawn, but no Bills will be issued for sums less than £100.
The Tenders to be in duplicate, and in sealed covers, addressed to the Chief Paymaster, Army Pay Department, and endorsed "Tenders for Government Bills."
The right to accept or reject any or all of the Tenders is reserved.

WILLIAM I. BARR,
Chief Paymaster, China.
Her Majesty's Treasury Office,
Queen's Road,
Hongkong, 5th April, 1894. [438]

SHANGHAI RACES.

RETURN TICKETS, FIRST SALOON, for the above RACES can be obtained on and after this date by the Steamers of the undermentioned Lines, available for one month from date of issue.

FARE.....\$30.
H. H. JOSEPH,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Co.
G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent, M. M. Co.
Hongkong, 5th April, 1894. [437]

THE PHARMACY.

FLETCHER & Co. Dispensing and Retail Chemists, Perfumers, Druggists Sundries-men and Patent Medicine Vendors.

KEPLER'S MALT\$14.00
KEPLER'S MALT AND OIL\$14.00
SCOTT'S EMULSION\$13.00
SCOTT'S EMULSION\$13.00

TOILET ACCESSORIES:—
Perfume Bottles, Cut Crystal, Combs, Brushes, Sponges, Sponge Bags, Flesh Gloves and Belts.
Perfumes:—Pinaud, Atkinson, Colgate, Rick-secker and Brown Perfumery Co.
Hongkong, 23rd September, 1893. [28]

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL ROTISSERIE has been RE-OPENED under new and experienced management.
THE STRICTEST ATTENTION paid to the Cuisine.
A STAFF of thoroughly trained and specially selected servants has been engaged and is under the immediate supervision of the Manager.
Hongkong, 6th April, 1894. [198]

BOARD AND RESIDENCE,
No. 1, VICTORIA VIEW, KOWLOON.

MRS. SMITH and Mrs. LEWIS have taken the above admirably situated Establishment from April 1st, where VISITORS will find every Accommodation at moderate rates.
Hongkong, 2nd April, 1894. [420]

THOMAS' GRILL ROOMS,
(Corner of Queen's Road and Duddell Street.)

THE Undersigned has always thought that such a place as this was the one thing needed to fit in between HOTEL LIFE and the PRIVATE BOARDING HOUSE—providing it be First-class in every detail. A place where one may have his GRILLED CHOP or STEAK at any hour of the Day, up to 11 P.M.; or later if notice be given. He is also prepared to SUPPLY MEALS to PRIVATE PARTIES. MENU or ORDER—the Fancier sending Dish, &c. for same—and Cash. Scale on application.

Monthly Board for One Person.....\$35.00
Dinner.....\$11.00
AMERICAN FROZEN OYSTERS always on hand and served in every Style.
Breakfast.....\$0.50
Dinner.....\$0.75
Dinner.....\$1.00
SPECIAL TIFINS and DINNERS served in Excellent Style at short notice.

W. THOMAS,
Proprietor.
Hongkong, 3rd May, 1894. [31]

J. W. KEW & CO'S
STEAM WATER BOATS.
PURE FRESH WATER.

THE attention of SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and CAPTAINS is called to the Superior Quality of TYTAM FILTERED WATER offered by J. W. KEW & Co., also to the advantages derived from their being able to Supply their Water in one-fourth the time occupied by the old fashioned and obsolete hand pumps.
No Impeding the loading or discharging of Cargo.
Call flag "W." Commercial Code.
J. W. KEW & Co.,
c/o Carmichael & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1894. [684]

NGAI SHANG,
20, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

RATTAN FURNITURE
of Every Description.
CHAIRS, COUCHES, TABLES, BASKETS, CHILDREN'S COTS, &c., &c.
Latest Patterns, Best Workmanship.
Also
Rattan Cots, Split Rattan, Canton Reed and Sundries of all kinds.
Hongkong, 28th November, 1893. [55]

G. FALCONER & CO.,
WATCH and CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS and JEWELLERS.
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,
CHARTS and BOOKS.
No. 44, Queen's Road Central. [593]

Intimations.

KELLY & WALSH, LD.

BOOKS RELATING TO HORSES AND RIDING.

HAYES' RIDING ON THE FLAT AND ACROSS COUNTRY.
Hayes' Points of the Horse.
Hayes' Veterinary Notes for Horse Owners.
Hayes' Soundness and Age of Horses.
Hayes' Training and Horse Management in India.
Hayes' Illustrated Horse Breaking.
The Horsewoman, by Mrs. Hayes.
Riding for Ladies, by Mrs. O'Donoghue.
Hints to Horsewomen, by Mrs. Albuit.
School Training for Horses, by Anderson.

Modern Horsemanship, by Anderson.
The Horse: Management in Health and Disease, by G. Armata.
Riding for Pupils, by "A Pupil."
Badminton Riding.
Badminton Driving.

BOOKS ON DOGS.
Stonchance on "The Dog."
Dogs: a Manual for Amateurs.
Our Dogs and Their Diseases.

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED.

Hongkong, 31st March, 1894. [6]

W. BREWER.

HAS JUST RECEIVED.

MARION'S Photographic Dry Plates, Ordinary, Instantaneous and Rapid.
Match Cricket Balls.
A splendid lot of Tennis Bats, Balls and Shoes.
Three Cigar Cigarettes in tins.
Sweet Biscuits Cigarettes.
Pocket Kives.
Whole Who, 1894.
Custance—Riding Recollections and Turf Stories.
Gold, Sport and Coffee-planting in Mysore.

Delmar—Science of Money.
Varieties Sinologues, by the Jesuit Fathers, 4 parts.
Savory's Domestic Medicine.
Sea's Stamp Album.
The International Stamp Album.
Stanley Gibbons's Stamp Album.
Large quantity of New Cheap Literature.
Mark Twain's Birthday Book.
Brown Russia Boots and Shoes.

W. BREWER,
UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL.

Hongkong, 5th April, 1894. [40]

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS, "Kremlin"—A. B. C. Code.—TELEPHONE, No. 32.

PROPRIETORS.....THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL—the most commodious and best appointed Hotel in the Far East, affords unequalled accommodation to travellers and others. It is situated in the centre of the town, opposite the General Post Office and the Hongkong Club, adjacent to Tedder's Wharf (the principal landing stage of the Colony) and in close proximity to the Banks and Shipping Offices.

THE HOTEL STEAM LAUNCH conveys passengers and baggage to and from all Mail Steamers. THE TABLE D'HOTE, at separate tables, is supplied with every delicacy, the cuisine being under experienced supervision.
THE BED-ROOMS, with adjoining Bath-rooms, are lofty and well ventilated, open on to spacious Verandahs, are lighted by gas and fitted throughout with electric communication.
The Reading, Writing and Smoking Rooms, Ladies' Drawing Rooms, the new Bar and public BILLIARD ROOMS (Six English and American Tables) are fitted with every convenience.
THE WINES & SPIRITS are selected by an Expert and the BEST BRANDS only are supplied.
HYDRAULIC ASCENDING ROOMS of the latest and most approved type convey passengers and baggage from the Entrance Hall to each of the five floors above.
NIGHT PORTERS and WATCHMEN are continually on duty.

R. TUCKER,
Manager.
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LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.
SHIPS' STORES.
WINES, SPIRITS, STOUT, ALE, LIQUEURS.
TEACHER'S "HIGHLAND CREAM" WHISKY.
NAPIER JOHNSTONE'S HIGHLAND WHISKY.

ADET SEWARD & Co.'s BORDEAUX WINES.
BACCORIES SHERRIES.
HENRY THOMSON & Co.'s JAMESON'S IRISH WHISKIES.
COATES' PLYMOUTH GIN.
HOBOKEN DE BIE & Co.'s HOLLANDS.
VERMOUTH, RUM, GINGER WINE, CHERRY BRANDY.
CIGARS and TOBACCOS.

JANE CRAWFORD & Co.
Hongkong, 26th February, 1894. [50]

DAWSON'S PERFECTION
OLD SCOTCH WHISKY.

ALLISTON & CO., SOLE AGENTS, Hongkong and the Far East,
68, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 11th December, 1893. [41]

CENTRAL HOTEL,
SHANGHAI.

Electric Lighting throughout the Premises.

THIS long-established SELECT Family Hotel, situated on the Bund, facing the river in the centre of the Settlements, is now fitted with the latest modern improvements, including Bath and Dressing Rooms ATTACHED to Suites and Single Rooms, with hot and cold water laid on, DOUCES, SHOWERS, SPRAYS, &c., and heated to a comfortable temperature during winter.

COMMODIOUS RECEPTION ROOM FOR VISITORS.
SEPARATE ROOMS FOR PRIVATE DINNER PARTIES, &c.
An Assistant attends on Passengers by Mail Steamers.
N.B.—Special reduced charges may be arranged for on application to the Manager.

F. E. REILLY,
PROPRIETOR.

Intimations.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

TO-MORROW (SATURDAY), APRIL 7TH, 1894, at 2.45 P.M.

COMPETITION for "MARTINI" CUP AND SPOONS: Ranges 200, 500 and 600 yards; Five Shots at each distance. Entrance fee 30 cents.

ARTHUR CHAPMAN,
Honorary Secretary.
Hongkong, 3rd April, 1894. [46]

WANTED a RUNNER for the HONGKONG HOTEL.

Apply to the Undersigned.
R. LYALL,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 4th April, 1894. [439]

FOUND.

A VALUABLE BROOCH.

Apply to
A. HAHN,
No. 1, Duddell Street.
Hongkong, 4th April, 1894. [432]

LOST.

AT the Theatre Royal, City Hall, on the night of the 21st instant:—

A SILVER-BRAIDED WAISTCOAT.

The finder will oblige by returning them to "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" OFFICE.

Hongkong, 29th March, 1894.



CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co.,

WINE and SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, LONDON AND GLASGOW.

13, Queen's Road, Hongkong, 24th August, 1893. [26]

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,

SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

PRAYA CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HARTMANN'S RAHTIEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION.

HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT.

DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES.

EVERY KIND OF SHIPS' STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK.

AT REASONABLE PRICES.

Hongkong, 14th July, 1893. [798]

Hotels.

PRAYA EAST HOTEL,

No. 58 & 60, PRAYA EAST.

THIS HOTEL, situated on the Praya, near the McGregor Barracks, OPEN to SEA BREEZES all the year round and commanding a fine view of the whole Harbor, having lately been enlarged and refurnished throughout, now offers first-class accommodation to RESIDENTS and BOARDERS.

Wines and Spirits of the best brands only supplied.

Terms moderate. J. C. L. ROUGH, Proprietor.

Hongkong, 6th March, 1894. [319]

PEAK HOTEL.

OPEN ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

THIS commodious and well appointed HOTEL, situated at a height of 1,550 feet above sea-level, having been leased by the Proprietors of the "VICTORIA HOTEL," is now OPEN and will be run in conjunction with their HOTEL in Queen's Road, thus enabling them to offer special inducements to Visitors and Residents.

SPECIAL WINTER RATES, FROM NOVEMBER 1ST, 1893, TO MARCH 31ST, 1894.

One person, per day.....\$ 3.00
One person, per week.....19.00
One person, one month.....55.00
Married couple (occupying one room) per day.....5.00
Married couple (occupying one room) per week.....32.00
Married couple (occupying one room) per month.....95.00

For full particulars apply to VICTORIA HOTEL.

Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [25]

FUJIYA HOTEL,

MIYANOSHITA, HAKONE.

Four and a half hours from Yokohama.

FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATION. NATURAL HOT SPRINGS.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT IN ALL THE BUILDINGS.

TWO ENGLISH BILLIARD TABLES.

EXCELLENT CUISINE.

SPECIAL RATES MADE FOR A PROLONGED STAY.

S. M. YAMAGUCHI, Proprietor.

Auctions.

FURNITURE SALE.

A. E. SKEELS & Co.,

SALE ROOMS, 17, PRAYA CENTRAL,

TO-MORROW (SATURDAY), April 7th, 1894, at 2.45 P.M. prompt.

(For Sunday Accounts.)

USEFUL HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE AND EFFECTS.

Comprising:—

Drawing-room, Dining-room and Bed-room Furniture, Handsome Sideboards, Overmantels, Double and Single Wardrobes with Bevelled Glass, Dressing Tables, Marble-Top and Fancy Tables, Extension Dining Tables, Chests of Drawers, Book-cases, Writing Desks, Double and Single Bedsteads, Marble-Top Washstands, Cooking Stove, Ice Boxes, Glass Ware, Cutlery, Carpets, Rugs, Bath-room, Kitchen and Various HOUSEHOLD REQUISITES.

On View from Friday.

SALE TERMS:—As customary.

A. E. SKEELS & Co., Auctioneers &c.

Hongkong, 4th April, 1894. [434]

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA, VIA AMOY.

THE Company's Steamship

"ESMERALDA,"

Captain G. A. Taylor, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 7th instant, at 5 P.M.

This Steamer has Superior Accommodation for Passengers and is fitted with the Electric Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SHEWAN & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 5th April, 1894. [436]

"SHELL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR LONDON AND ROTTERDAM.

THE Steamship

"ELAX,"

Captain Daniels, will be despatched for the above Ports on or about the 9th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SHEWAN & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 5th April, 1894. [440]

SAILING VESSELS.

FOR NEW YORK.

THE 3/3 I. I. American Bark

"EDWARD MAY,"

McClure, Master, will leave here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to SHEWAN & Co.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1894. [363]

Consignees.

"MOGUL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S. S. "GHAAZE,"

FROM LIVERPOOL AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 3 P.M. TO-DAY.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 10th instant, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 10th instant, or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 10th instant, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 3rd April, 1894. [404]

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of CARGO per Steamship "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."

The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for counter signature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

J. S. VAN BUREN, Agent.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1894. [18]

Masonic.

DISTRICT GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION of the DISTRICT GRAND CHAPTER OF HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA, will be held in the Masonic Hall, Zealand Street, Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 5th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely.

Hongkong, 3rd April, 1894. [414]

Intimations.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & CO., LD.

WARM CLOTHES.

THESE will all be spoilt before next cold weather unless properly taken care of.

NAPHTHALINE

Is the best thing to keep away Moths, &c., and prevent clothes smelling rusty.

FIFTY CENTS PER TIN.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & COMPANY, LIMITED, VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1894.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

On and after the 1st April, 1894, the Prices of our WINES and SPIRITS will be as follows:—

PORT.

(For Invalids and general Use.)

	Per dozen Cases.
B Vintage, superior quality, Red Capsule.....	\$14.40
C Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule.....	16.20
D Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled).....	20.40

Port after dinner should be rested for a month before use. Wine required for drinking at once should be kept in the Dispensary before sent out. These wines are too well known to need comment.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates. We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony, or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

SHERRY.

	Per dozen Cases.
B Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule.....	\$10.80
C Merlot, Pale, Natural Sherry, White Capsule.....	12.00
CC Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule.....	12.00
D Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice Old Wine, White Seal Capsule.....	14.40
E Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled).....	20.40

B, C, and D are excellent dinner wines or for invalids and delicate stomachs. D and E are after dinner wines of a very superior vintage. All are the Xeres wines.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates. We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony, or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

CLARET.

	Per dozen Cases.
B St. Etienne, Red Capsule.....	\$9.60
C St. Julien, Red Capsule.....	9.60
D St. Rose, Red Capsule.....	9.60
E St. Louis, Red Capsule.....	9.60
F St. George, Red Capsule.....	9.60
G St. Andrew, Red Capsule.....	9.60
H St. Martin, Red Capsule.....	9.60
I St. John, Red Capsule.....	9.60
J St. Peter, Red Capsule.....	9.60
K St. Paul, Red Capsule.....	9.60
L St. James, Red Capsule.....	9.60
M St. Philip, Red Capsule.....	9.60
N St. Nicholas, Red Capsule.....	9.60
O St. Basil, Red Capsule.....	9.60
P St. Constantine, Red Capsule.....	9.60
Q St. Helena, Red Capsule.....	9.60
R St. Agatha, Red Capsule.....	9.60
S St. Barbara, Red Capsule.....	9.60
T St. Elizabeth, Red Capsule.....	9.60
U St. Anne, Red Capsule.....	9.60
V St. Catherine, Red Capsule.....	9.60
W St. Margaret, Red Capsule.....	9.60
X St. Ursula, Red Capsule.....	9.60
Y St. Lucy, Red Capsule.....	9.60
Z St. Theresa, Red Capsule.....	9.60

Our Claret, including the lowest priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine product of the vine of the grape, and are not artificially made from various and currents, as is generally the case with cheap wines.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates. We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony, or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

HOCK.

	Per dozen Cases.
Nienle.....	\$12.00
Rudolmer.....	21.00
Hochelmer.....	24.00

BURGUNDY.

	Per dozen Cases.
Chablis, white wine.....	15.00
Messault, superior white wine.....	18.00
Volsy, very superior red wine.....	21.00

All our Brandy is guaranteed to be pure Cognac, the difference in price being merely a question of age and vintage.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates. We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony, or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

WHISKY.

	Per dozen Cases.
A Three's Blend, White Capsule.....	\$10.80
B Watson's Glenorchy Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule with Name and Trade Mark.....	10.80
C Watson's Aboulo-Glenlivet, Red Capsule with Name and Trade Mark.....	12.00
D Watson's H.K.D. Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule.....	14.40
E Watson's Very Old Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule.....	15.00
F Watson's Very Old Scotch Whisky, Silver Capsule.....	14.40

Intimations.

Our lowest priced Whisky is of excellent quality and of greater age than most brands in the market. We recommend our customers not to be deterred by the lowness of price from trying them all. For a soda-whisky, Thomson's Blend and Watson's Glenorchy are equal to any. Aboulo-Glenlivet is a very old Peat Whisky, that could not be replaced in stock at the price. D and E are two well known to need comment.

IRISH—

	Per dozen Cases.
A John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule.....	\$12.00
B John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule.....	15.00
C John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule.....	18.00

All these are very fine and old. C has been stocked in Hongkong in wood for 20 years, there being little sale for Irish Whisky in the Colony.

AMERICAN—

	Per dozen Cases.
Genuine Bourbon Whisky, Fine Old, Red Capsule, with our Name and Trade Mark.....	\$15.00

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates. We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony, or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

GIN.

	Per dozen Cases.
A Fine Old Tom, White Capsule.....	\$7.20
B Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule.....	7.00

RUM.

	Per dozen Cases.
Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule.....	\$15.00
Good Leeward Island.....	6.00
Good Leeward Island.....	\$2.50 per Gallon.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates. We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony, or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

LIQUEURS.

	Per dozen Cases.
Benedictine, Maraschino, D.O.M., Hering's Cherry Cordial, Chartreuse, Dr. Serravallo's Angostura Bitters, &c.	

PRICES ON APPLICATION.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD. HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1894.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1894.

OUR DEFICIENT WATER SUPPLY.

GOOD ADVICE THROWN AWAY.

The water supply of Hongkong, as we regret to have had to bring to the notice of the Government and the community on many occasions during the past half dozen years, is the reverse of satisfactory, and threatens some day to bring disastrous results on the colony. For some considerable time past it has been well known in certain official circles, and it is now generally recognised by the public at large, that the greatly vaunted Tiam reservoir, with all its costly belongings, is a gigantic fraud of the first water. As soon as we can get in proper order the various official documents in connection with the construction of this, the greatest and most costly of ex-Surveyor General J. M. Frazer's 'white elephants,' we shall endeavour to fix the responsibility in the proper quarter for what has almost from the beginning proved a delusion and a snare to a long-suffering community. In the meantime it will suffice to direct attention to the danger the colony is now in, from a probable water famine, and to the official neglect which has made such a position possible. In October last, foreseeing a difficulty that has year by year appeared only too increasingly probable, the *Hongkong Telegraph* gave the following words of warning to a supposed responsible officialdom:—

Now that the rainy season is over, it would be advisable for the authorities to seriously and conscientiously consider the question of the Colony's water supply, instead of drifting heedlessly into a repetition of last year's troubles. When the Tiam water-works were finished, people vaguely referred to Hongkong's water supply as 'practically inexhaustible,' 'a feast in the East,' and so on; Mr. Surveyor-General Price estimated that the store accumulated during any one rainy season could not fall to hold out for beyond one dry season; and that view, backed up by specious statistics, was generally adopted. The same old story for three years in succession we have run short, with inconceivable inconvenience results, to the poorer classes especially; and early this year Mr. F. A. Cooper, Director of Public Works, bluntly burst the bubble and declared that the 'inexhaustible' supply was really by no means adequate to meet a prolonged drought, and was one that might easily be exhausted if the usual extravagance was not vigorously stopped. Since then, apparently, nothing has been done, and this winter the result will probably be the same as in the past; water will be used as freely as ever, until it begins to run short; then there will be the usual mild exhortations published—'please do not be reckless,' and so on; and finally the water will be cut off, intermittently in some places, permanently in others. All this could be avoided by recognising the position candidly, and meeting the 'extravagance' by rational remedies such as a meter system, and a payment by 'measured' use. In fact, the remedy is so rational that it is just why the Government will probably not adopt it.

Needless to say, the sound advice contained in the foregoing lines was simply thrown away; the majority of modern Hongkong high officials devote their time and energies chiefly in trying by every possible means to enhance their respective positions in the shape of increased salaries and unlimited special privileges; practical work for the benefit of their employers, the Hongkong taxpayers, has a very secondary place in the departmental programme. And the Hongkong community are now reaping the doubtful benefit of this don't-care-a-damn policy, which has proved so ruinously expensive

In the past. For weeks past the supply of water has been quite inadequate for the ordinary requirements of householders; it has been going from bad to worse day after day, and should the rainy season delay its appearance much longer, condensing apparatus will be required to keep life in the colony. As matters stand at present the drains cannot be properly flushed, which means that the health of the colony is in consequence seriously threatened. And could anything be more discreditable than the utter helplessness of the Fire Brigade at the disastrous conflagration on Wednesday night, owing to no water being available? This sort of thing has surely gone far enough! Something must be done by the Government to ensure a sufficient water supply for domestic purposes at all seasons of the year, or the public will be compelled to act firmly and independently for their own protection. There is plenty of water on Hongkong Island to meet all requirements; the Talkoo Sugar Refinery near Shau-ki-wan has a reservoir with a capacity almost equal to the Tiam dam, and with streams running into it quite sufficient at all seasons to supply the whole of the city of Victoria. The Hongkong Government foolishly sold this invaluable property to Messrs. BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE, whose energy and enterprise in this as in many other matters deserve hearty commendation. There is also always a considerable supply of water in the Wong-nai-cheong, and Mint Dam reservoirs, but that is carefully utilised for the East Point and Bowrington Sugar Refineries, no matter what distress a scarcity of this precious fluid causes to the inhabitants of a crowded city. This is a substantial grievance, affecting all classes, and needs remedying without delay.

TELEGRAMS.

ANARCHISM IN PARIS. LONDON, April 4th, 1894.

Another bomb outrage has been perpetrated at Paris, in a restaurant opposite the Senate House. Three persons were seriously injured.

THE SEIGNORAGE COINAGE BILL. The United States House of Representatives has failed to pass the *Seignorage Coinage Bill*, which was vetoed by President Cleveland.

MEETING OF CROWNED HEADS. The King of Italy and the Emperor of Germany met at Venice on Saturday.

HOME RULE FOR SCOTLAND. The House of Commons, by a vote of one hundred and eighty against one hundred and seventy, adopted a motion put forward by Mr. J. H. Darnley (M.P. for Kirkcaldy) in favour of creating Home Rule legislation for Scotland.

THE PARNELLITE PLATFORM. At a Convention held at Dublin the Parnellites resolved to do their duty towards the Nationalists, and force a dissolution of Parliament.

LOCAL AND GENERAL. No man is happier over 'a new suit' than the young lawyer.

THE silk ex-steamship *Tacoma* was delivered in New York on the 4th inst.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made by a Japanese company to export Echigo kerosene to Corea.

THE P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamer *City of Sydney*, with mails, &c., left San Francisco for this port, via Yokohama, on the 4th inst.

Rev. Togg—What is the chief evil of modern society? Old Sock—Society, of course.

THE fire at the Kurata coal mine (Japan) last month resulted in eighteen deaths, out of 755 men who were in the pit at the time.

WE are informed by the Agent of the Austrian Lloyd's S. N. Co., that the Company's steamer *Vindobona* left Singapore for this port to-day.

A BILL to make ex-Confederates eligible for pensions for service in war before the Rebellion has been favorably reported to the U. S. House of Representatives.

THE O. & S. S. Co.'s steamer *Gallic*, with mails, &c., from San Francisco to the 2nd ult., has arrived at Yokohama, and will leave for this port to-morrow morning.

IT is said that more railway employes were maimed and mangled last year in the United States than the country lost in wounded and missing on the field of Gettysburg.

THE Agents (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.) inform us that the 'Ben' line steamer *Benlawrie*, from Antwerp and London, left Singapore for this port on the 4th inst.

AN Emergency meeting of the Victoria Property Council will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, on Tuesday, the 10th inst., at 5.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited to attend.

THE Paymaster of H.M. *Manjula* cut his throat with a dagger on March 15th, and was not expected to live. According to the *Tokio Asahi*, he had three troubles—wine, women, and money.

THE Chinese men-of-war *Ting-yuen*, *Chun-yuen*, *King-yuen*, *Lai-yuen*, of the Felyang squadron, left their anchorages in Kowloon Bay at 8 o'clock this morning and steamed out of port through the Lyce-mun Pass, bound for Shanghai.

Dr. Rimmell, the new surgeon for the Naval Hospital, who cut his throat the day after arriving by the *Zawar*, is recovering and is expected to be well enough to be sent back home in the same vessel.

CATO may have accomplished a great feat in learning Greek at eighty, but Mr. Gladstone has outdone him in attempting at eighty-four to acquire the language of the Basques, a dialect that has long been a puzzle to philologists.

It is reported that in consequence of the numerous annoyances and insults offered recently to foreigners in Japan, the native police have been given special instructions to be more watchful and prompt in these cases.

It is rumored in China-town that the *Sas-yap*, and *Sow-yap* coasts guide lately, if possible, to make this colony the scene of fresh disturbances and outrages at an early date, as they are dissatisfied with the recent supposed settlement of their disputes.

THE Agents (Messrs. Dodwell, Carill & Co.) inform us that the Northern Pacific Steamship Co.'s steamer *Tacoma* left Victoria, B.C., for this port, via Japan, yesterday morning.

A CONTEMPORARY states that a collection of *waka*, or verses in honour of the Mikado's silver wedding, is shortly to be published in Tokio, and that over 1,000 of these literary contributions have already been sent in. After all, Hongkong is not the most awful place on earth.

SPECIAL attention is directed to the notification in our advertising columns with respect to a new race for to-morrow's Sky Meeting. The C.M.G. community has subscribed \$10, for a special cup, for Mesopotamian camels, weight for inches, once round the harbour and in. Tenderers are invited for the construction of the Cup.

THE official report on the earthquake in Japan on March 23rd states that the direction was S. to N., and the duration ten minutes. The maximum horizontal motion was 5.3 millimetres, for 3.6 seconds; the maximum perpendicular motion was slight, and the nature of the shock slow. On the same day between 2h. 35m. 37s. and 1h. 58m. 45s. there were 60 tremors. The earthquake was most severely felt at Atsugi, Koshu province, Hokkaido, where 25 houses were demolished.

At the Magistrate's this morning Mr. H. E. Woodhouse dismissed the charge brought by Constable Pepper against the Opium Farmer in which it was stated that the latter had moved four chests of opium in the waters of the Colony after prohibited hours on the 31st ultimo. Mr. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennis, appeared for the defence and contended that the section of *Ordinance 28 of 1891* under which the charge was framed did not apply. It referred to delivery of opium from one person to another. It was urged to suppose that the Opium Farmer would be required to sign or give a removal permit for his own drug when transferred from one part of the colony to another. His Worship agreed with the learned counsel and dismissed the case, but stated he was of opinion that the police could bring a fresh charge against the Farmer under section 15 of *Ordinance 28 of 1891*. Of course the police took the hint, and the case will therefore be heard before two magistrates at an early date, when the Crown Solicitor will probably prosecute.

SPORTING GOSSIP.

Should the rain which has been threatening this afternoon hold off for twenty four hours longer, the Sky Meeting to be held at the Race-course to-morrow afternoon under the auspices of the Polo Club is certain to attract a large attendance and prove a big success. As will be seen by the programme in another part of this issue, large entries have been secured for the various races, and as most of the ponies engaged have been more or less in training since the annual Race Meeting in February, some very interesting racing and exciting finishes may be confidently predicted. This course is unfortunately very hard—more like a turnpike road than a racing track—and a few break-downs are only too probable unless rain falls heavily between now and the first saddling bell, but that of course is a risk which all owners and jockeys must share alike.

There are eight events on the programme and the first race, over the Wong-nai-cheong Stakes distance, will be started punctually at 2.30 p.m. Eight of the best sprinters are eligible to start, and on public form the race certainly looks 'a good thing.' For Exchange, a speedy pony that won the Encouragement Stakes at the recent Jockey Club Meeting in a common canter from eleven opponents. It may be that Exchange—not by any means too sound—will not relish the adamantine course, but as the opposition is not likely to be strong and as the biggy will be well ridden by Captain Thomas, he ought to notch up a winning bracket without much difficulty. Both Juba (third in the Valley Stakes and Jockey Cup and second in the Encouragement Stakes and Nil Desperandum) and Swift (winner of the Nil Desperandum and Gymkhana Stakes and third in the Hongkong Stakes) have been going well in training and are not to be despised by any means, whilst Catterthun, if in the humour, can gallop a bit.

Stonehenge, a rare bit of stuff, should secure the Polo Scum very early. The One Mile Handicap is a work of art that needs careful analysing. There are a dozen acceptances and probably eight ponies will come to the post. Maypole is scarcely fast enough, and I am doubtful about Havoc, a most disappointing racer, doing his best. Nero, an old 'creek' that hasn't raced for a long time, looks over-weighted with 11st. 8lb., whilst Thunderbolt, who was very well indeed in February, has been let in at 11st. 3lb., which is at least 7lb. under what he ought to carry. Markman would probably win if he were fit and well, but this slightly little racer has stiffened up and will not run. Catterthun at 10st. 10lb. has an outside chance, but on previous form he is hardly treated. Old Giles and Juba are 'screwed-up.' The Signor will be kept for the Hurdle Race, so that the hopes of the Shropshire L. I. sports depend on Blafium, who is well in at 10st. 4lb. and will be started by Capt. Hunt. Swift has also been let down to 11st. 3lb. and is a very shapely bay that moves in excellent form; but unless I am greatly mistaken the back-tendon of his off-fore leg is 'sprung,' and he will probably break down when fairly extended onto the hard ground. Fidget will be ridden by Mr. Master, I fancy that Thunderbolt, especially if he is in excellent trim and if he is given his self a rare weight carrier, will, although it is quite on the cards that the second-rate 'subs' Blafium, Swift, and Catterthun may make a bold bid for victory.

The Three-quarter-mile Race has nine entries and probably the whole crowd, perhaps excepting Catterthun, will start. Blafium, if specially kept for this event, would have a rare chance, but should he incur a penalty in a previous race he may be safely passed to one side. Gangadeen is no use, Energy has too much weight to carry, and the same may be said of Silver King, although the last named is a true race pony and is certain to make a bold show even with 12 st. 7 lb. in the saddle. If Exchange wins the half-mile he will have to carry 12st. 10lb. here, which ought to prove an effective stopper; if he

doesn't win the half-mile he has no chance over six furlongs. Exile has been going well in training and with the advantage of Mr. Master's experienced jockeyship should make light of his 5lb. penalty, but he may find it no easy task to get rid of the light-weight Vigilant and Lugensland, and one of this pair may be returned the winner.

The Hurdle Race, owing to the hard course, which prevented owners from risking their ponies' legs, has been divested of all interest, and it is really a toss up between The Signor (Captain Hunt) and the Shifter (Mr. May). The grey is the better jumper, the chestnut probably a trifle the speedier of the pair.

The Seven Furlongs Race has ten entries, and perhaps half-a-dozen ponies may go to the post. Previous races will of course pretty clearly indicate the prospects of most of the probable competitors, but Duart and Thunderbolt got over the best class, and if the don has got over his recent stiffness he ought to win easily. Fidget is an unknown quantity in Hongkong, and if kept for this race might effect a surprise, but, as already stated, he is unsound and a confirmed curio boot. He may race better in company than he has done on the training track.

I am afraid the Ladies' Nomination Race is out of my latitude, so I won't hazard any prediction. For the Champions, a mile and a quarter, the most dangerous ponies are Nero, Duart, Thunderbolt, Swift, and Silver King. The winner of this race will also be pretty plainly indicated by previous results; on past form the issue should lie between Duart and Silver King, and were both in condition the placing in the German Cup would most likely be repeated; but it is worth remembering that these two winners are anything but cherry tips and that Thunderbolt is in better condition than any other pony in the list.

AN OLD SPORTSMAN. Hongkong, 6th April, 1894.

HONGKONG POLO CLUB SKY MEETING, 1894.

President—His Excellency Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.
Vice-President—His Excellency Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir E. R. Fremantle, K.C.B.; His Excellency Major-General Digby Barker, C.B.
Committee—The Hon. T. H. Whitehead; Captain A. H. Thomas, A.S.C.; Captain W. H. Murray; C. E. Rock-Kene, Esq.
Honorary Secretary and Treasurer—F. H. May, Esq.
Judge—Major Archibald Lyle, S.L.I.
Starter—H. E. R. Hunter, Esq.
Clerk of Scales—Captain W. H. Murray.
Clerk of the Course—Captain A. H. Thomas, A.S.C.
Handicappers—The Hon. J. J. Keswick; T. F. Hough, Esq.

SATURDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1894.
HALF-MILE RACE; prize presented; for all China ponies; weight for inches as per scale, with 12lb. added; subscription of £100, with 12lb. added; 7lb. and 12lb. side polo ponies and hacks allowed 12lb.; second to receive \$10; third to save stake; entrance, \$3.
Mr. Copenhagen's b. Elmore, 12st. 5lb.
Mr. Boyd's c. Energy, 11st. 6lb.
Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's g. Catterthun, 11st. 6lb.
Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's d. Duart, 11st. 6lb.
Mr. Rock-Kene's g. Exchange, 11st. 9lb.
Mr. Salop's g. Blafium, 11st. 6lb.
Mr. Salop's g. Juba, 11st. 3lb.
Mr. J. D. Humphreys's g. Swift, 11st. 6lb.

POLO SCURRY; quarter mile; prize presented by the Polo Club; for all bona fide polo ponies; catch weights over 12st. 7lb.; second to save stake; entrance, \$3.
Mr. F. H. May's g. Sweet William
Mr. Salop's g. Iron Duke
Captain Thomas's b. Stonehenge
ONE MILE HANDICAP, a forced entry for all China ponies entered at this meeting (except in race a); weight for inches as per scale, with 12lb. added; subscription of £100, with 12lb. added; 7lb. and 12lb. side polo ponies and hacks allowed 12lb.; second to receive \$10; third to save stake.
Mr. F. H. May's g. Maypole, 11st. 4lb.
Mr. Cuckshank's g. Havoc, 11st. 4lb.
Mr. Carruthers's w. Nero, 11st. 8lb.
Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's g. Catterthun, 10st. 10lb.
Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's g. Markman, 10st. 10lb.
Mr. Taylor's g. Thunderbolt (late Volta), late Thunderbolt, 11st. 3lb.
Mr. Salop's b. Old Giles, 10st. 7lb.
Mr. Salop's g. Juba, 10st. 12lb.
Mr. Salop's g. Blafium, 10st. 4lb.
Mr. Salop's ch. The Signor, 10st. 6lb.
Mr. Taylor's b. Fidget, 11st. 6lb.
Mr. J. D. Humphreys's g. Swift, 10st. 12lb.

THREE-QUARTER-MILE RACE; prize presented; for subscription of £100, with 12lb. added; 7lb. and 12lb. side polo ponies and hacks allowed 12lb.; second to receive \$10; third to save stake.
Mr. Cuckshank's b. Gangadeen, 10st. 12lb.
Mr. Boyd's c. Energy, 11st. 12lb.
Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's g. Catterthun, 11st. 6lb.
Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's b. Lugensland, 10st. 6lb.
Mr. Rock-Kene's g. Exchange, 12st. 6lb.
Mr. Salop's g. Blafium, 10st. 6lb.
Mr. Salop's g. Exile, 11st. 6lb.
Mr. J. D. Humphreys's g. Vigilant, 10st. 12lb.
Mr. David's g. Silver King, 11st. 7lb.

HURDLE RACE; prize presented; for all China ponies; catch weights over 12st. 7lb.; second to receive \$10; third to save stake.
Mr. Salop's ch. The Signor, 10st. 6lb.
Mr. Master's g. The Shifter, 10st. 6lb.
SEVEN FURLONGS RACE; prize presented; for all China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners and placed ponies at this meeting 12lb. and 5lb. extra, respectively; hacks and polo ponies allowed 12lb.; second to receive \$10; third to save stake.
Mr. F. H. May's g. Maypole, 11st. 7lb.
Mr. Cuckshank's g. Havoc, 11st. 4lb.
Mr. Carruthers's w. Nero, 11st. 12lb.
Mr. Copenhagen's b. Elmore, 12st. 7lb.
Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's d. Duart, 11st. 12lb.
Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's g. Markman, 10st. 6lb.
Mr. Taylor's g. Thunderbolt, 10st. 12lb.
Mr. Rock-Kene's g. Exchange, 11st. 4lb.
Mr. Salop's g. Juba, 10st. 12lb.
Mr. Pug's b. Fidget, 11st. 12lb.

LADIES' NOMINATION RACE, three prizes presented by the Polo Club; to saddle a pony on the course at the winning post, moun, side round a post about 250 yards distant; return, diamond, and receive a cigar and a box of matches from a lady, light the cigar, mount, and ride over the same course again. First past the winning post, with cigar alight, and girthing tight to win. Entrance, \$3.
Mr. F. H. May's g. Sweet William, nom. by Mrs. May.
Mr. Cuckshank's d. Juba, nom. by Miss Jackson.
Mr. J. G. Forbes's g. Gangadeen, nom. by Miss Murray.

Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's ch. Sweetheart, nom. by Mrs. A. G. Gordon.
Mr. Salop's g. Cloister, nom. by Mrs. Compton.
Mr. Salop's g. Exile, nom. by Mrs. Master.
Mr. C. C. Master, nom. by Mrs. Master.
Mr. Landale's g. Endeavour

is unlikeli to speculate "what might have been." Still, it is fair enough to conclude that if harbour-water had been used exclusively, there might have been more fresh water left in Tiam now. When the order was given to pump up water from the sea to the steam engines ashore, several splendid jets were soon playing on the fire, and in a very few minutes the struggle was practically decided; half an hour later, it was as good as finished. Prior to that, only two jets—one in Queen's Road and one in Bonham Strand—had been able to rise above the pavement. Yet thousands of gallons—jets of (say) 2 1/2 inches diameter, emitting probably five gallons each per second—were being thrown on the ground. Not that there was any danger of the ground catching fire!

In the course of their regular drills, the firemen get plenty of practice at running out hose, wading up water-men, turning on water-mains, and so on; but I believe that the use of harbour water is only taught them as a special and very extraordinary measure. Surely this is a gross blunder on the part of the authorities. It should be made a rule to use harbour water first of all, and strictly that exclusively in ordinary cases. A little extra length of hose and a little change of drill would make all the difference. I don't say it would have saved any of the houses on Wednesday, but it would have saved the drinking water of the Colony. What is the objection? The motto of the Fire Brigade seems to be "never use sea water as long as there is a drop of fresh," and "never turn off the mains even if they are no use turned on."

Yours faithfully,
T. C. C.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1894.

THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

DEAR SIR:—As it may interest your readers, I beg to forward you the following particulars in connection with the eclipse of the sun on this date.

The events recorded are copied from a journal published in Madras—the article on the subject being contributed by an astrologer under the nom-de-plume "Sepharial."

As most of the events prognosticated are certainly not of a vague nature, and as they refer to things which (if true) are of supreme importance to those connected with India and China, the publication of this will give your readers the chance of testing the question as to whether there is any truth or not in astrology as a science.

1.—"Emperor of China will be in danger."
2.—"Probable rising in China and series of national calamities."
3.—"A case of death will occur in the Viceregal Council of India."

4.—Some sedition will take place in the ranks of the Indian Army.
5.—Philippine Islands, and South Coast of China likely to experience shocks of earthquake about the 15th inst.

6.—"Very bad spring crops may be expected in China."
7.—Violent typhoons in China, and cyclones to Bay of Bengal are sure to follow the eclipse.

8.—There will be troubles in India and accidents in connection with Indian Railway and Postal Service.
9.—Great troubles may be expected almost on the heels of the eclipse. Property and crops will suffer terribly.

10.—"The influence of the eclipse will not last longer than five months and a half. (Probably on the calculation that the eclipse lasts upon the earth about 5 1/2 hours.)"

Some little time will elapse before the chief events will be manifest, but after May 24th events will follow in quick succession.

The following dates will have their marks in Indian Affairs and probably in those of China also.

April 7th—13th—24th—and 26th.
May 4th—22nd—and 23rd.
June 10th.
July 8th—15th.
August 7th.

The evil effects will be most disastrous in China.

In connection with the above prophesies it occurs to me that the mantle of Jeremiah must have been lent to Sepharial for the time being.

Yours faithfully,
JUMBO.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1894.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Canton, April 5th.

The Canton Municipal Council is again courting notoriety. Money is wanted, to repair the roads and bridges, I suppose; a tax of \$5 per annum has therefore been imposed on every dog or son of a dog in the Shamoen.

Well, of course the roads and bridges would be much the better for a little touching-up, but there might be better ways to raise the wind—no doubt some of the world-famed philanthropists of Hongkong would assist if only they were given the opportunity; some of them make a special study of cruelty to animals! It is perfectly true that dogs may become a nuisance when they are under no restriction at all; but \$2 a year would have been an ample impost—I think that is what you pay in Hongkong, is it not?

Perhaps that would not bring in all the money that is wanted, but there is no reason for such an exorbitant tax on the poor dogs. There are other nuisances well worth suppressing by prohibitive licence fees in Shamoen—much worse nuisances than dogs; those that arrive every evening in chairs, and disappear in the houses of some well-known residents, and later on, promenade about the best walks on the Shamoen, to the exclusion of respectable women, who do not care to take their evening walks in such company. Why not charge these things \$5 per head?

Anyhow, I consider this \$5 dog tax an infernal imposition, and I don't mean to pay it. A notice was circulated threatening that all dogs will be killed if not paid for; but if anybody gets at my Newfoundland and kills him, there will be a violent end to every dog that comes within my power. Please send me up, as a preliminary, half a picul of arsenic; but put it up in cocoa tins, or else the Customs people might wonder what it was and might taste it—which would be a pity!

NEWS BY THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

The China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Chinglu*, Capt. R. Jones, with the Australian mail, arrived in harbour this morning. We take the following items from our Sydney exchanges—

LONDON, March 31st.

Telegrams from the Cape report that a conflict has taken place between the British and Portuguese at Tete, on the River Zambesi, in Portuguese Africa. An attempt was made to land a party from a British gunboat at Tete, in connection with the building of the Zambesi telegraph line, but the Portuguese offered some opposition, and the gunboat fired upon the Portuguese.

The officer in charge wrote the details of the conflict to Mr. Cecil Rhodes, Premier of Cape Colony, and reinforcements are being despatched

to the aid of the British. The Portuguese forces at Tete are also being reinforced.

Later.

Further particulars are to hand regarding the conflict at Tete, on the Zambesi River between the Portuguese and a party from a British gunboat that had landed in connection with the construction of the Zambesi telegraph. It is reported that the Portuguese deliberately obstructed the operations of the British by removing the poles erected to carry the wires.

They carried out their work of obstruction under cover of fire from the forts. The commander of the British gunboat warned them to desist, or he would fire. The Portuguese, however, completely ignored the warning, and the order to open fire was given.

Latest advices from West Africa state that the British are shelling Gopjur, and that the enemy is giving them a hot return with Martini-Henry rifles from intrenchments in the sand banks. Boats from the warships have been unable to effect a landing owing to the hot fire. The efforts of the British attacking force are now confined to an inspection of the enemy's position, with a view to discover a weak point in the defence. It is intended to make a land attack, and a full has occurred in hostilities.

The native houses at Jambor have been burned by the British, who found it empty, save for the relics of the slaves.

Later.

A report from West Africa states that Major Madden's force has captured Brekanar after an hour's engagement. Cononjur, the native settlement near Bathurst, will be attacked in force to-morrow.

A sensational suicide occurred at Blackfriars Railway Bridge. A porter employed on one of the lines deliberately placed himself in front of an approaching train, and was killed immediately.

The London City Council has decided, by the casting vote of the Lord Mayor, to throw open on Sundays the picture gallery and museum attached to the Guildhall.

It is stated that the Government of the United States will not support the proposed British Pacific cable from Canada to Australia.

Ex-King Milan, of Serbia, father of the present sovereign, Alexander I., has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Serbian Army.

It is reported that during the attack on the rebel stronghold at Gonjour, near Bathurst, the capital of Gambia, West Africa, the gunboats, firing at random, endangered the British land forces, in consequence of the scrub intervening between the native forts and the beach. The natives, who are armed with Martini-Henry rifles, are harassing the British force.

The Paris police are pursuing their policy of activity in suppressing the anarchists' movements. Amongst the suspects, recently arrested in connection with the outrages in M. Bourdin, father of the anarchist, Martial Bourdin, who was a few weeks ago killed by the accidental explosion at Greenwich Park, London.

The followers among the Irish National party of Timothy Healy, M.P., are demanding from the Earl of Rosebery an assurance that he will proceed with the Home Rule Bill.

The Earl of Rosebery has written to Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., stating that the content of the Australian colonies must be obtained before the penny postage between them and Great Britain can be considered. The Premier adds, however, that if the colonies assented to the proposal a measure to regulate and legalise the penny postage could be immediately brought before Parliament.

It is reported that the Messageries Maritimes Company have decided not to adopt the Torres Straits route to Australia.

SYDNEY, March 31st.

An extraordinary event occurred in Parliament this afternoon. At the usual hour the bells rang to call members, but two minutes later when the Speaker entered the Chamber only the Premier and 12 other Ministers and members were in their places. The Speaker cast his eye around, and astonished the assembled members by announcing that, there being no quorum present, the House stood adjourned.

He immediately left the Chamber, and the sitting was at an end. Within two minutes there were fully 30 members in the Chamber engaging in an animated discussion on the occurrence.

There was a considerable amount of annoyance that the night which it was intended to devote to military estimates should have been wasted through a few members dawdling on their way into the Chamber.

MELBOURNE, March 31st.

During an interview, one of the Mercantile Bank case jurors, said the jury had made up their minds before leaving the box, and only retired for a smoke.

It has been ascertained that the cost to the Crown since the inception of the Mercantile Bank case has been \$5,000.

LONDON, March 31st.

Another terrible outrage by anarchists is reported this time from Rome. The object of the attack was the Chamber of Deputies in Rome, the intention of the anarchists being to wreck the Chamber and destroy the lives of some of the members in emulation of the action of Vallant in the French Chamber. The House had been in session during the day, and shortly after the adjournment a bomb exploded, and Chamber building itself was damaged, and several deputies who were in the hall or vicinity were more or less seriously wounded.

A scene of intense excitement followed the event, and the police have been actively engaged in trying to find the perpetrators of the outrage. Several arrests of suspected persons have been made, and more are expected to follow. It is expected that the whole plot will be laid bare.

This further outrage within the precincts of a Parliament has caused a profound sensation.

The trial of Daniel Coughlin for the murder of Dr. Cronin on the night of May 4th, 1889, was concluded in Chicago yesterday. The evidence showed that the prisoner and Dr. Cronin had been bad friends for a number of years. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the accused was acquitted.

The Parcellite Party in the House of Commons has issued a manifesto in connection with the recent changes in the British Cabinet. In the manifesto the party warns the people to beware of treachery in regard to the Home Rule question.

Serious allegations have been made against certain officers of Birmingham Arsenal. It is alleged that they practised a system of blackmail on the workmen. The mode of operation is said to be that the officers threatened to prevent the promotion or to bring about the removal of men unless they made them certain payments. The matter has been reported to the authorities, and two arrests have been made on suspicion.

The opposition offered by the Portuguese on the Zambesi River, East Africa, to the construction of the telegraph line by the British, has led to a serious encounter. As the Portuguese officials persisted in obstructing the work, the marines from the British gunboat *Mosquito* attacked them, and it is reported that serious fighting ensued.

The British gunboat *Wildcat* has shelled the stronghold of the rebel chief at Gonjour, near Bathurst, the capital of Gambia, West Africa. During the bombardment 60 natives were killed.

In an interview with Sir Thomas Milner, Secretary of the Colonies, the Marquis of Ripon, Secretary of State for the Colonies, said he was in favour

of the Pacific cable between Australia and Canada. He added that he was considering the question of reciprocal commercial relations between the mother country and her colonies, but that he must for the present defer dealing with other subjects included in Sir Thomas Milner's mission to England.

Lord Ripon promised to urge the Government to subsidise the new Canadian-Australian mail service.

An infernal machine was exploded yesterday outside the Chamber of Deputies at Rome, seriously injuring eight persons and mortally wounding a ninth. The widows of the Chamber were smashed.

The Russian police have made a raid on Nihilists at Warsaw. A large number of arrests were made. One of the suspected Nihilists, a student, resisted arrest and shot an officer dead, besides wounding three others. A printing press belonging to the Nihilists was also seized.

The proposed commercial treaty between Germany and Russia was adopted by the committee of the German Reichstag by a majority of four.

A cable despatched from Rio de Janeiro gives particulars of insults to the British and German flags. Emboldened by the absence of the British and German warships from the harbor of Rio de Janeiro, the insurgents fired upon the British and German ensigns. The absence of the warships was due to the prevalence of yellow fever in the port. It is expected the insurgents will be promptly called to account.

Reports from India state that the force of Sepoys under Captain Maxwell, which was sent out to the frontier of Assam to subdue the hill tribes in revolt, has been placed in a critical situation.

The expedition was engaged in a severe conflict with the Abor tribe for two days, and ultimately the British force was defeated and obliged to beat a retreat.

A relief party of 30 men, belonging to a rifle regiment sent out with rations to the British officer, has been annihilated, and all the routes leading to the beleaguered force have been blocked by the enemy.

March 10th.

In order to obviate the necessity for the Earl of Hopetoun to leave before the expiry in Nov., 1895, of his full term as Governor of Victoria, the Colonial Office is willing to grant him leave of absence to visit England to arrange his private affairs.

A bill has been introduced in the Austrian Reichsrath extending the full electoral franchise to an additional million of people.

James R. R. Fitt, late secretary to the North London Permanent Building Society, who is charged with falsifying the company's books and embezzling £50,000, has been committed for trial.

The Hon. Joseph Royal, formerly Lieutenant-Governor and Indian Commissioner for the North-western Territories of Canada, has issued a manifesto asserting that Canada requires increased protection and power to make treaties with other nations. He says that the people of the Dominion prefer separation to Imperial federation, and the adoption of a free trade policy would be suicidal.

The French press reports that 5,000 Chinese soldiers have invaded the region of the Upper Mekong, Cambodia, and seized the province of Luang Prabang, or the whole of the buffer state recently proclaimed between Siam and the French possessions in Cochinchina. [The inaccuracy of this speaks for itself.—Ed., H.K.T.]

March 11th.

The French Chamber of Deputies has carried a motion approving of the abolition of the Paris Convention, which has been in force since 1860, and defeating the Government by 68 votes.

The Liberals in England are warmly advocating the proposed national memorial to Mr. Gladstone.

It is reported that when Parliament meets the Government intend to introduce a bill limiting the right of veto by the House of Lords. The measure will contain a provision to prevent the Peers from rejecting a bill after it has been twice passed by the House of Commons.

The Indian Council has passed the new tariff, imposing a 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on all imports, exempting cotton, but including silver.

March 12th.

An extraordinary scene occurred at the meeting of the Paris Municipal Council to-day. During the progress of business the whole of the members of the body rose and unanimously gave cheers for the Commune.

Details of the death of Major Wilson and the members of his little band which was annihilated by the Matabels are to hand.

When the lioness, compelled to retire, found that retreat was impossible owing to the overflow of the river which they would have to cross, they entrenched themselves behind temporary breastworks, but were soon surprised by the Matabels in overwhelming numbers. Wilson was wounded early in the fight, and though covered with blood he aided the survivors by handing them the rifles as they were being loaded by another member of the party. Finally, as all their ammunition was exhausted, the little band of survivors stood shoulder to shoulder singing "God Save the Queen," and they were spared with scarcely a word were they stood.

Lord Rosebery, the new Prime Minister and leader of the Liberal party, addressed a large meeting of Liberal members to-day for the first time since his accession to the Premiership. He outlined his future policy, with the result that the party was delighted with his programme, especially with his reference to foreign affairs and the House of Lords.

Lord Rosebery entirely re-affirmed the programme which Mr. Gladstone was carrying out, but, in addition, he struck a new keynote in proposing a system of federal Home Rule; in fact, this was the principal feature of his address.

Lord Rosebery has had an audience of the Queen on the question of the House of Lords.

In the House of Commons to-day there were a large number of peers present listening to denunciations of the Upper Chamber by Sir William Harcourt and others.

The general elections throughout Japan have resulted in a victory for the Liberals.

A daring gunpowder plot has been discovered at Yokohama. The plot aimed at abiding the life of the Emperor, his heir, the Ministers of the Crown, and many men of means, as well as to destroy the shrines. [This evidently refers to the Korean gunpowder plot, recently reported in this Journal.—Ed., H.K.T.]

A thousand arrests have taken place in connection with the plot.

The trial has taken place at Barcelona of the persons charged with extensive forgeries of French bank notes.

Twenty of them were sentenced to terms of imprisonment of nine years each, and five men and two women were acquitted.

A body of rebels at Hanoi has captured a warship belonging to the Haytian Government. The cargo of munitions of war was landed and the crew were all shot by order of the rebel commander, General Hippolyte.

What is supposed to be an explosion caused by anarchists is reported from New York. A bomb was exploded in a saloon in the Italian quarter of the city, but fortunately no lives were lost. There is no clue to the perpetrator of the outrage.

It is announced that Mr. Gladstone will not contain Middleham at the next general election.

It is now reported that the relief party sent to the assistance of the British who were engaged

in subduing the Abor hill tribes on the Assam frontier has not been cut to pieces by the enemy, as reported. The column is said to be quite safe. They burnt the native town of Membo, which is three days' march from their quarters.

FOOCHOW NOTES.

Foochow, March 31st, 1894.

The wheat crop is expected to be a very abundant one this spring.

The Provincial Treasurer has notified that a partial eclipse of the sun will take place on Friday next, the 6th proximo, beginning at 10 a.m. and lasting till 3 p.m.

Some benevolent natives have opened a hospital outside the east-gate of the city for the relief of the sick poor, free of charge. It has been named Sal-poo, and its establishment is regarded as a great boon by the people of the neighbourhood.

A fatal accident occurred on the river on Monday last. It appears that a sampan conveying a passenger across the river ran into a junk which was under sail and capsized. The passenger, being unable to swim, was drowned, while the sampan man saved his life by clinging to his overturned boat.

Hitherto there has been no *hik* tax charged on smaller quantities than one *picul* of tea taken into the city, but the *hik* tax, having discovered that this has been a *hik* advantage by large dealers to the loss of the *hik* revenue, has imposed the tax on any quantity weighing over three catties.

A wealthy native residing at the north gate of the city engaged a theatrical troop to give an entertainment to his friends on the anniversary of his birthday. The cook of the establishment being desirous of seeing the performance left his kitchen to take care of itself, and through some mishap a fire broke out during his absence.

The kitchen was completely gutted, but fortunately the fire was discovered in time, and precautions were successfully taken to prevent the flames spreading to the house.

A bungling thief was caught and delivered over to the authorities this week. He went into a goldsmith's shop and asked to see some bangles. As the first shown him did not suit him the goldsmith turned round to get another from his case. Quick as lightning the thief changed the first gold bangle for a copper one, which he left on the counter while he was examining the second one. The goldsmith's practised eye quickly discovered the trick; he caught the fellow, gave him a good thrashing and then handed him over to the mercy of the authorities.

It is well known that native emigrants to foreign countries who have been successful in making fortunes fear to come back to their own homes on account of the sneering they know they will have to undergo by yam runners and petty mandarins. This matter has lately been brought to the notice of the Viceroy and the Tartar-General, and a proclamation has been issued directing the magistrates to look specially after returned emigrants and give them their rights. The number of guests was largely augmented by visitors from other ports, and dancing was kept up with great spirit until the small hours of the morning.

We mentioned in these columns some little time ago that the native mechanics in this close neighbourhood had petitioned the authorities to have the creeks dredged near their residences and that the authorities replied that, while the state of the public funds would not permit of their taking the matter in hand at once, it should have their attention by and by. We now hear that the petitioners, alarmed at the increase of sickness in their families which they attribute to the choked state of the creeks, are taking the matter into their own hands and are setting about the work of dredging at their own expense with the assistance of some subscriptions they are obtaining.—*Echo*.

NEWS AND GOSSIP.

The Burmah ruby mine enterprise is in a bad way.

It is said that there are 30,000 Buddhists in Paris.

A \$40,000,000 ship canal across Ireland is mooted.

Emperor William of Germany smokes cigarettes.

A congress of doctors from all over the world will be held in Rome this month.

A French review—the *Revue Bleue*—laments that the French people have not yet bought the recent railway storms in Germany resulted in the death of 21 persons and serious injury of 400.

Paris has borrowed \$40,000,000 for the preliminary expenditures of the World's Fair of 1900.

Mrs. Alice Woodworth, the English instructor in dancing, is said to have more than 10,000 pupils.

An international mining and metallurgical exhibition will be held at Santiago, Chile, next September.

It is stated that M. Clemenceau will be prosecuted because of his attacks on the administration of the French Navy.

Max Kaufman, a Berlin jeweller, has made a perfect ivory chariot with movable wheels, the whole weighing but two grains.

The normal output of coal in England during the sixteen weeks of the strike declined from 63,000,000 tons to 39,000,000 tons.

The plentiful French vintage this year has caused such a glut in the market that good wine can be bought in the south for a penny a quart.

Work on the new Atlantic cable between Nova Scotia and the Irish coast will be commenced on May 1st. The cable will be 2,200 miles long.

Glowing accounts are given of the destructive capabilities of the new Salvoir mitrailleuses which has been adopted by the Austrian military authorities.

A retired French naval officer has invented a rifle that is capable of firing two kinds of explosive bullets, both having immense power of penetration.

Differences of opinion regarding French investments in Portuguese railways have caused France to withdraw her Minister temporarily from Portugal.

The use of finances to destroy a city's garbage and refuse is growing in favor. There are now fifty-five municipalities in England where the system is used.

Statistics prepared in Paris show that the proportion of novels to serious works read in the public libraries of the municipality is less than 50 per hundred.

The Russian railroads, owned by the Government, in 1889 and 1890 paid the interest on their coal and the State debt, and paid up a surplus of \$31,000,000.

The Russian orthodox missionaries have on failed in their proselytizing efforts among the

Khigese that the mission will probably be shortly withdrawn.

Observations recently made under the auspices of the Austrian Government prove that there are places in the Mediterranean Sea that are over three miles deep.

Advices from Olesna state that wolves in the Caucasus, made desperate by hunger and the bitter cold, attacked and killed eighteen men in outlying villages.

There will soon be navigation on the Dead Sea, under the auspices of the Turkish Sultan, who has put some sailing vessels on those waters as a commercial investment.

White horses are to be barred from military service in Germany. The Emperor has ordered that no more be purchased for the army, and those now in use are to be sold.

Word comes from Nice that Mary Anderson Navarro, who is starting there, lives very quietly, neither receiving nor paying visits. The cause assigned is very delicate health.

Poor health may compel Mr. McDonald, United States Minister to Peru, to resign, and the American missionaries will ask the reappointment of ex-Minister Truxton Beale.

General Mellinet, whose death took place a few weeks ago, was the last surviving French officer of the Waterloo battle in which he was a sub-lieutenant of the Young Guard.

Paris has gone crazy over things Russian; the latest manifestation of the craze is the gift by a French woman to the women's hospitals in St. Petersburg of 3,000 smelling bottles.

It is said to be of common occurrence in London for proprietors of public houses to hold life insurance policies on inebriates, so as to protect themselves against the loss of patrons.

The London *Daily News* declares that the discharge in bankruptcy granted to Michael Davitt by the Appeal Court in Dublin will not remove his disqualification for a Parliamentary seat.

Australian refrigerated meat has been put on the Vienna market, where it can compete in price with the domestic product, although Austria-Hungary is a large meat-producing country.

M. Brunetiere, speaking to the French Academy of Science, said that the deaths outnumbered the births in France, but he predicts these will soon begin to gain by an excess of births over deaths.

Trade returns of Russia for the first nine months of last year, compared with those of the corresponding period of 1892, show an increase to the value of \$5,644,000 rubles in exports and \$4,098,000 in imports.

Alexander III has just affixed his signature to a project of law now being elaborated by the Council of the Russian Empire, which is destined to render inalienable the landed allotments of the peasants.

During last year the underground railway of London carried 85,489,835 passengers and earned £668,062. This was 1,000,000 fewer passengers than carried during 1892, a falling off attributed to the depression in trade.

King Behaudul's throne has arrived in Paris, a new relic to the city from the viceregal Genoa. Doda, and has been placed in the Trocadéro Museum. It is a curious block of wood carved with rude reliefs representing the King and his court.

The Municipal Council of St. Petersburg has submitted to the Mayor a plan for an international exhibition to be held in 1903, which will be the date of the 200th anniversary of the founding of St. Petersburg. This will be the first Russian universal exhibition.

Judging from the fact that a superb synagogue has just been dedicated at St. Petersburg, it would appear that the persecution of the Hebrews by the Czar is notwithstanding so terrible as has been described. The synagogue is constructed in ornate Oriental style.

In 1892 the Russian railroads carried about 36,000,000 gallons of wine, produced in Bessarabia (along the Roumanian border), in the Crimea, and in the country on the slopes of the Caucasus, the southern side of which is like many vine-growing districts of western Europe.

An English Methodist paper says that a well-meaning local preacher recently prayed that the Lord would annihilate the Queen and all the royal family. When he learned afterward what "annihilate" meant he was greatly distressed.

is said to be a "what might have been." Still it is fair enough to conclude that if the water had been used exclusively, there might have been more fresh water left in the tank. When the order was given to pump up water from the sea to the steam engines ashore, several splendid jets were soon playing on the fire, and in a very few minutes the struggle was practically decided; half an hour later, it was as good as finished. Prior to that, only two jets—one in Queen's Road and one in Bonham Strand—had been able to rise above the pavement. Yet thousands of gallons—six jets of (say) 2 1/2 inches diameter, emitting probably five gallons each per second—were being thrown on the ground. Not that there was any danger of the ground catching fire!

In the course of their regular drill, the firemen get plenty of practice at running out hose, wading up water-men, turning on water-mains, and so on; but I believe that the use of harbour water is only taught them as a special and very extraordinary measure. Surely this is a gross blunder on the part of the authorities. It should be made a rule to use harbour water first of all, and stick to that exclusively in ordinary cases. A little extra length of hose and a little change of drill would make all the difference. I don't say it would have saved any of the houses on Wednesday, but it would have saved the drinking water of the Colony. What is the objection? The motto of the Fire Brigade seems to be "never use sea water as long as there is a drop of fresh," and "never turn off the hoses even if they are no use turned on."

Yours faithfully,
T. C. C.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1894.

THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." DEAR SIR:—As it may interest your readers, I beg to forward you the following particulars in connection with the eclipse of the sun on this date.

The events recorded are copied from a journal published in Madras—the article on the subject being contributed by an astrologer under the nom-de-plume "Sepharia." As most of the events prognosticated are certainly not of a vague nature, and as they refer to things which (if true) are of supreme importance to those connected with India and China, the publication of this will give your readers the chance of testing the question as to whether there is any truth or not in astrology as a science.

- 1—"Emperor of China will be in danger."
- 2—Probable rising in China and series of national calamities.
- 3—"A case of death will occur in the Viceregal Council of India."
- 4—Some edition will take place in the ranks of the Indian Army.
- 5—Philippine Islands, and South Coast of China likely to experience shocks of earthquake about the 11th and 12th inst.
- 6—"Very bad spring crops may be expected in China."
- 7—Violent typhoons in China, and cyclones in Bay of Bengal are sure to follow the eclipse.
- 8—"There will be troubles in India and accidents in connection with Indian Railway and Postal Service."
- 9—Great troubles may be expected almost on the heels of the eclipse. Property and crops will suffer terribly.
- 10—"The influence of the eclipse will not last longer than five months and a half. (Probably on the calculation that the eclipse lasts upon the earth about 3 1/2 hours.)"
- 11—Some little time will elapse before the chief events will be manifest, but after May 24th events will follow in quick succession.
- 12—The following dates will have their marks in Indian Affairs and probably in those of China also.

April 7th—12th—24th—and 26th.
May 4th—22nd—and 23rd.
June 10th—15th.
August 7th.

The evil effects will be most disastrous in China.

Yours faithfully,
JUMBO.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1894.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Canton, April 5th. The Canton Municipal Council is again courted by money. Money is wanted, to repair the roads and bridges, to support a tax of \$5 per annum has therefore been imposed on every dog or son of a dog in the Shamene.

Well, of course the roads and bridges would be much the better for a little touching-up, but there might easily be better ways to raise the wind no doubt some of the world-famed philanthropists of Hongkong would assist if only they were given the opportunity; some of them make a special study of cruelty to animals! It is perfectly true that dogs may become a nuisance when they are under no restriction at all; but \$2 a year would have been an ample impost—I think that is what you pay in Hongkong, is it not?

Perhaps that would not bring in all the money that is wanted; but there is no reason for such an exorbitant tax on the poor dogs. There are other nuisances well worth suppressing by prohibitive licence fees in Shamene—much worse nuisances than dogs; those that arrive every evening in chairs, and disappear in the houses of some well-known residents, and later on, promenade about the best walks on the Shamene, to the exclusion of respectable women, who do not care to take their evening walks in such company. Why not charge these things \$5 per head?

Anyhow, I consider this \$5 dog tax an infernal imposition, and I don't mean to pay it. A notice was circulated threatening that all dogs will be killed if not paid for; but if anybody gets at my Newfoundland and kills him, there will be a violent end to every dog that comes within my power. Please send me up, as a preliminary, half a picul of arsenic; but put it up in cocoa tin, or else the Customs people might wonder what it was and might taste it—which would be a pity!

NEWS BY THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

The China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Chingtu*, Capt. R. Innes, with the Australian mail, arrived in harbour this morning. We take the following items from our Sydney exchanges:—

LONDON, March 28th.

Telegrams from the Cape report that a conflict has taken place between the British and Portuguese at Tete, on the River Zambesi, in Portuguese Africa. An attempt was made to land a party from a British gunboat at Tete, in connection with the building of the Zambesi telegraph line, but the Portuguese offered some opposition, and the gunboat fired upon the Portuguese.

The officer in charge wired the details of the conflict to Mr. Cecil Rhodes, Premier of Cape Colony, and reinforcements are being despatched

to the aid of the British. The Portuguese forces at Tete are also being reinforced.

Later.

Further particulars are to hand regarding the conflict at Tete, on the Zambesi River between the Portuguese and a party from a British gunboat that had landed in connection with the construction of the Zambesi telegraph. It is reported that the Portuguese deliberately obstructed the operations of the British by removing the poles erected to carry the wires. They carried out their work of obstruction under cover of fire from the forts. The commander of the British gunboat warned them to desist, or he would fire. The Portuguese, however, completely ignored the warning, and the order to open fire was given.

Latest advices from West Africa state that the British are shelling Gonjor, and that the enemy is giving them a hot return with Martini-Heery rifles from intrenchments in the sand banks. Boats from the warships have been unable to effect a landing owing to the hot fire. The efforts of the British attacking force are now confined to an inspection of the enemy's position, with a view to discover a weak point in the defence. It is intended to make a land attack, and a hull has occurred in hostilities.

The native houses at Jambur have been burned by the British, who found it empty, save for the relics of the slain.

LATER.

A report from West Africa states that Major Madden's force has captured Brekaner after a hard engagement. Gonjor, the native settlement near Bathurst, will be attacked in force to-morrow.

A sensational suicide occurred at Blackfairs Railway Bridge. A porter employed on one of the lines deliberately placed himself in front of an approaching train, and was killed immediately. The London City Council has decided, by the casting vote of the Lord Mayor, to throw open on Sundays the picture gallery and museum attached to the Guildhall.

It is stated that the Government of the United States will not support the proposed British Pacific cable from Canada to Australia.

Ex-King Milan, of Serbia, father of the present sovereign, Alexander I., has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Serbian army.

It is reported that during the attack on the rebel stronghold at Gonjor, near Bathurst, the capital of Gambia, West Africa, the gunboats, firing at random, endangered the British land forces, in consequence of the turreted intervening between the native forts and the beach. The natives, who are armed with Martini-Heery rifles, are harassing the British force.

The Paris police are pursuing their policy of activity in suppressing the anarchists' movements. Amongst the suspects recently arrested in connection with the outrages in M. Bourdin, father of the anarchist, Martial Bourdin, who was a few weeks ago killed by the accidental explosion at Greenwich Park, London.

The followers among the Irish National party of Timothy Healy, M.P., are demanding from the Earl of Rosebery an assurance that he will proceed with the Home Rule Bill.

The Earl of Rosebery has written to Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., stating that the content of the Australian colonies must be obtained before the penny postage between them and Great Britain can be considered. The Premier adds, however, that if the colonies assented to the proposal a measure to regulate and legalise the penny postage could be immediately brought before Parliament.

It is reported that the Messageries Maritimes Company have decided not to adopt the Torres Straits route to Australia.

SYDNEY, March 28th.

An extraordinary event occurred in Parliament this afternoon. At the usual hour the bells rang to call members, but two minutes later when the Speaker entered the Chamber only the Premier and a few other Ministers and members were in their places. The Speaker cast his eyes around, and astonished the assembled members by announcing that, there being no quorum present, the House stood adjourned. He immediately left the Chamber, and the sitting was at an end.

While two minutes there was an animated discussion on the occurrence. There was a considerable amount of annoyance that the night which it was intended to devote to military estimates should have been wasted through a few members dawdling on their way into the Chamber.

MELBOURNE, March 28th.

During an interview, one of the Mercantile Bank case juries, said the jury had made up their minds before leaving the box, and only retired for a smoke.

It has been ascertained that the cost to the Crown since the inception of the Mercantile Bank case has been £5000.

LONDON, March 28th. Another terrible outrage by anarchists is reported this time from Rome. The object of the attack was the Chamber of Deputies in Rome, the intention of the anarchists being to wreck the Chamber and destroy the lives of some of the members in emulation of the action of Valiant in the French Chamber. The House had been in session during the day, and shortly after the adjournment a bomb exploded. The Chamber building itself was damaged, and several deputies who were in the hall or on the stairs were more or less seriously wounded. A scene of intense excitement followed the event, and the police have been actively engaged in trying to find the perpetrators of the outrage. Several arrests of suspected persons have been made, and more are expected to follow. It is expected that the whole plot will be laid bare. This further outrage within the precincts of the Chamber has caused a profound sensation.

The trial of Daniel Coghlan for the murder of Dr. Cronin on the night of May 4th, 1889, was concluded in Chicago yesterday. The evidence, at the trial, which extended over a long period, showed that the prisoner and Dr. Cronin had been bad friends for a number of years. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the accused was acquitted.

The Parnellite Party in the House of Commons has issued a manifesto in connection with the recent changes in the British Cabinet. In the manifesto the party warns the people to beware of treachery in regard to the Home Rule question.

Several allegations have been made against certain officers of Birmingham Arsenal. It is alleged that they practised a system of blackmail on the workmen. The mode of operation is said to be that the officers threatened to prevent the promotion or to bring about the removal of men unless they made them certain payments. The matter has been reported to the authorities, and two arrests have been made on suspicion.

The opposition offered by the Portuguese on the Zambesi River, East Africa, to the construction of the telegraph line by the British, has led to a serious encounter. As the Portuguese officials persisted in obstructing the work, the marines from the British gunboat *Morguito* attacked them, and it is reported that serious fighting ensued.

The British gunboat *Widegga* has shelled the stronghold of the rebel chief at Gampor, near Bathurst, the capital of Gambia, West Africa. During the bombardment 60 natives were killed. In an interview with Sir Thomas Milner, of Queensland, the Marquis of Ripon, Secretary of State for the Colonies, said he was in favour

of the Pacific cable between Australia and Canada. He added that he was considering the question of reciprocal commercial relations between the mother country and her colonies, but that he must for the present defer dealing with other subjects included in Sir Thomas Milner's mission to England.

Lord Ripon promised to urge the Government to subsidise the new Canadian-Australian mail service.

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The proposed commercial treaty between Germany and Russia was adopted by the committee of the German Reichstag by a majority of four.

A cable despatched from Rio de Janeiro gives particulars of insults to the British and German flags. Emboldened by the absence of the British and German warships from the harbor of Rio de Janeiro, the insurgents fired upon the British and German ensigns. The absence of the warships was due to the prevalence of yellow fever in the port. It is expected the insurgents will be promptly called to account.

Reports from India state that the force of Sepoys under Captain Maxwell, which was sent out to the frontier of Assam to subdue the hill tribes in revolt, has been placed in a critical situation.

The expedition was engaged in a severe conflict with the Abor tribe for two days, and ultimately the British force was defeated and obliged to beat a retreat.

A relief party of 30 men, belonging to a rifle regiment sent out with rations to the British officer, has been annihilated, and all the routes leading to the beleaguered force have been blocked by the enemy.

March 10th.

In order to obviate the necessity for the Earl of Hopetoun to leave before the expiry in Nov., 1896, of his full term as Governor of Victoria, the Colonial Office is willing to grant him leave of absence to visit England to arrange his private affairs.

A bill has been introduced in the Austrian Reichsrath extending the full electoral franchise to an additional million of people.

James R. Fitt, late secretary to the North London Permanent Building Society, who is charged with falsifying the company's books and embezzling £30,000, has been committed for trial.

The Hon. Joseph Royal, formerly Lieutenant-Governor and Indian Commissioner for the North-western Territories of Canada, has issued a manifesto asserting that Canada requires increased protection and power to make treaties with other nations. He says that the people of the Dominion prefer separation to Imperial federation, and the adoption of a free trade policy would be suicidal.

The French press report that 5,000 Chinese soldiers have invaded the region of the Upper Mekong, Cambodia, and seized the province of Luang Prabang, or the whole of the buffer state recently proclaimed between Siam and the French possessions in Cochinchina.

The French Chamber of Deputies has passed a motion approving of the abolition of the Paris railway or city barrier, duties on wine and beer, and the proposed national memorials to Mr. Gladstone.

It is reported that when Parliament meets the Government intend to introduce a bill limiting the right of veto by the House of Lords. The measure will contain a provision to prevent the Peers from rejecting a bill after it has been twice passed by the House of Commons.

The Indian Council has passed the new tariff, embodying a 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on all imports, exempting cotton, but including silver.

March 12th.

An extraordinary scene occurred at the meeting of the Paris Municipal Council to-day. During the progress of business the whole of the members of the body rose and unanimously gave cheers for the Commune.

Details of the death of Major Wilson and the members of his little band which was annihilated by the Mahdists are to hand.

When the little force, compelled to retire, found that retreat was impossible owing to the overflow of the river which they would have to cross, they entrenched themselves behind temporary breastworks, but were soon surprised by the Mahdists in overwhelming numbers. Wilson was wounded early in the fight, and though covered with blood he aided the survivors by leading them the rifles as they were being headed by another member of the party. Finally, as all their ammunition was exhausted, the little band of survivors stood shoulder to shoulder singing "God Save the Queen," and they were speared with assegais where they stood.

Lord Rosebery, the new Prime Minister and leader of the Liberal party, addressed a large meeting of Liberal members to-day for the first time since his accession to the Premiership. He outlined his future policy, with the result that the party was delighted with his programme, especially with his reference to foreign affairs and the House of Lords.

Lord Rosebery entirely reaffirmed the programme which Mr. Gladstone was carrying out, in addition, he struck a new key-note in fact, this was the principal feature of his address.

Lord Rosebery had an audience of the Queen on the question of the House of Lords.

In the House of Commons to-day there were a large number of peers present listening to denunciations of the Upper Chamber by Sir William Harcourt and others.

The general elections throughout Japan have resulted in a victory for the Liberals.

A daring gunpowder plot has been discovered at Yokohama. The plot aimed at taking the life of the Emperor, his heir, the Ministers of the Crown, and many men of means, as well as to destroy the shoguns. [This evidently refers to the Korean gunpowder plot, recently reported in this journal.—Ed., H.K.T.]

A thousand arrests have taken place in connection with the plot.

The trial has taken place at Barcelona of the persons charged with extensive forgeries of French bank notes.

Twenty of them were sentenced to terms of imprisonment of nine years each, and five men and two women were acquitted.

A body of rebels at Hayti has captured a warship belonging to the Haytian Government. The cargo of munitions of war was landed and the crew were all shot by order of the rebel commander, General Hippolyte.

What is supposed to be an explosion caused by anarchists is reported from New York. A bomb was exploded in a saloon in an Italian quarter of the city, but fortunately no lives were lost. There is no clue to the perpetrator of the outrage.

It is announced that Mr. Gladstone will not contest Midlothian at the next general election. It is now reported that the relief party sent to the assistance of the British who were engaged

in subduing the Abor hill tribes on the Assam frontier has not been cut to pieces by the enemy, as reported. The column is said to be quite safe. They burnt the native town of Membu, which is three days' march from their quarters.

FOOCHOW NOTES.

Foochow, March 31st, 1894.

The wheat crop is expected to be a very abundant one this spring.

The Provincial Treasurer has notified that a partial eclipse of the sun will take place on Friday next, the 6th proximo, beginning at 10 a.m. and lasting till 3 p.m.

Some benevolent natives have opened a hospital outside the east gate of the city for the relief of the sick poor, free of charge. It has been named *Sulpicio*, in its establishment is regarded as a great boon by the people of the neighbourhood.

A fatal accident occurred on the river on Monday last. It appears that a sampan conveying a passenger across the river ran into a junk which was under sail and capsized. The passenger, being unable to swim, was drowned, while the sampan man saved his life by clinging to his overturned boat.

Hitherto there has been no *khin* tax charged on small quantities of tea and opium, but the *khin* Tatal having discovered that this has been taken advantage of by large dealers to the loss of the *khin* revenue, has imposed the tax on any quantity weighing over three catties.

A wealthy native residing at the north gate of the city engaged a theatrical troop to give an entertainment in his friends on the anniversary of his birthday. The cook of the establishment being desirous of seeing the performance left his kitchen to take care of himself, and through some mishap a fire broke out during his absence.

The kitchen was completely gutted, but fortunately the fire was discovered in time, and precautions were successfully taken to prevent the flames spreading to the house.

A bungling thief was caught and delivered over to the authorities this week. He went into a goldsmith's shop and asked to see some bangles. As the first shown him did not suit him the goldsmith turned round to get another from his case. Quick as lightning the thief changed the first gold bangle for a copper one, which he left on the counter while he was examining the second one. The goldsmith's peevish eye quickly discovered the trick; he caught the fellow, gave him a good thrashing and then handed him over to the mercy of the authorities.

It is well-known that native emigrants to foreign countries who have been successful in making fortunes fear to come back to their own homes on account of the sneering they know they will have to undergo by yam runners and petty mandarins. This matter has lately been brought to the notice of the Viceroy and the Tartar-General, and a proclamation has been issued directing the magistrates to look specially after returned emigrants and give them their protection against attempts at squeezing. Failing to do so they are warned that they will be severely punished.

Although all racing men are not dancing or "ladies' men," the Stewards of the Fochien Race Club have given ample proof that they are as good at organizing a dance as they are at administering the affairs of the Club in matters purely sporting. The dance of Monday last at the Fochien Race Club bore further testimony to this.

Nothing was wanting in the arrangements. The decorations, lighting, music and supper were all very good. The number of guests was largely augmented by visitors from other ports, and dancing was kept up with great spirit until the small hours of the morning.

We mentioned in these columns some little time ago that the native merchants in this close neighbourhood had petitioned the authorities to have the "creeks" dredged near their residences and that the authorities replied that while the state of the public funds would not permit of their taking the matter in hand at once, it should have their attention by and by. We now hear that the petitioners, alarmed at the increase of sickness in their families which they attribute to the choked state of the creeks, are taking the matter into their own hands and are setting about the work of dredging at their own expense with the assistance of some subscriptions they are obtaining.—*Echo*.

NEWS AND GOSSIP.

The Burmah ruby mine enterprise is in a bad way.

It is said that there are 30,000 Buddhists in Paris.

A \$400,000 ship canal across Ireland is mooted.

Emperor William of Germany smokes cigarettes.

A congress of doctors from all over the world will be held in Rome this month.

A French cyclist the *News* says—laments that the French people have ceased to buy books.

The recent heavy storms in Germany resulted in the death of 20 persons and serious injury of 400.

Paris has borrowed \$400,000,000 for the preliminary expenditures of the World's Fair of 1900.

Mrs. Alice Woodworth, the English instructor in dancing, is said to have more than 10,000 pupils.

An international mining and metallurgical exhibition will be held at Santiago, Chile, next September.

It is stated that M. Clemenceau will be prosecuted because of his attacks on the administration of the French Navy.

Mrs. Kaufman, a Berlin Jeweller, has made a perfect ivory chariot with movable wheels, the whole weighing but two grains.

The normal output of coal in England during the sixteen weeks of the strike declined from 63,000,000 tons to 39,000,000 tons.

The plentiful French vintage this year has caused such a glut in the market that good wine can be bought in the south for a penny a quart.

Work on the new Atlantic cable between Nova Scotia and the Irish coast will be commenced on May 1st. The cable will be 2,200 miles long.

Growing accounts are given of the destructive capabilities of the new *Salvator* mine-lance which has been adopted by the Austrian military authorities.

A retired French naval officer has invented a rifle that is capable of firing two kinds of explosive bullets, both having immense power of penetration.

Differences of opinion regarding French investments in Portuguese railways have caused France to withdraw her Minister temporarily from Portugal.

The use of fumigants to destroy a city's garbage and refuse is growing in favor. There are now fifty-five municipalities in England where the system is used.

Statistics prepared in Paris show that the proportion of novels to serious works read in the public libraries of the municipality is less than 50 per hundred.

The Russian railways, owned by the Government, in 1893 and 1894 paid the interest on their cost and the State debt, and paid up a surplus of \$10,000,000.

The Russian anthropologist missionaries have engaged in this proselytizing efforts among the

Khigese that the missions will probably be shortly withdrawn.

Observations recently made under the auspices of the Austrian Government prove that there are places in the Mediterranean Sea that are over 7000 fathoms deep.

Advices from Odessa state that wolves in the Caucasus, made desperate by hunger and the bitter cold, attacked and killed eighteen men in cultivating villages.

There will soon be navigation on the Dead Sea, under the auspices of the Turkish Sultan, who has put some sailing vessels on those waters as a commercial investment.

Wolfe horses are to be barred from military service in Germany. The Emperor has ordered that no more be purchased for the army, and that no more be used to be sold.

Ward comes from Nice that Mary Anderson Navaro, who is staying there, lives very quietly, neither receiving nor paying visits. The cause assigned is very delicate health.

For health may compel Mr. McDonald, United States Minister to Persia, to resign, and the American missionaries will ask the reappointment of ex-Minister Trexter Beale.

General Mellinet, whose death took place a few weeks ago, was the last surviving French officer of the Waterloo battle, in which he was a sub-lieutenant of the Young Guard.

Paris has some grave over things Russian; the latest manifestation of the craze is the gift by a French woman to the women's hospitals in St. Petersburg of 3,000 smelling bottles.

It is said to be of common occurrence in London for proprietors of public houses to hold life insurance policies on their inmates, so as to protect themselves against the loss of patrons.

The London *Daily News* declares that the discharge in bankruptcy granted to Michael Davitt by the Appeal Court in Dublin will not remove his disqualification for a Parliamentary seat.

Australian refrigerated meat has been put on the Vienna market, where it can compete in price with the domestic product, although Austria-Hungary is a large meat-producing country.

M. Brunetiere, speaking to the French Academy of Science, said that the deaths outnumbered the births in France, but he predicts there will soon begin to gain by an excess of births over deaths.

Trade returns of Russia for the first nine months of last year, compared with those of the corresponding period of 1892, show an increase to the value of 95,694,000 rubles in exports and 42,998,000 in imports.

Alexander III has just affixed his signature to a project of law now being elaborated by the Council of the Russian Empire, which is destined to render inalienable the landed allotments of the peasants.

During last year the underground railway of London carried 85,489,855 passengers and earned £668,062. This was 1,000,000 fewer passengers than carried during 1892, a fall off attributed to the depression in trade.

King Behsan's throne lately arrived in Paris, a present to the city from the victorious General Dolt, and has been placed in the Trocadere Museum. It is a curious block of wood carved with rude reliefs representing the King and his court.

The Municipal Council of St. Petersburg has submitted to the Mayor a plan for an International Exhibition to be held in 1903, which will be the date of the 20th anniversary of the founding of St. Petersburg. This will be the first Russian universal exhibition.

Judging from the fact that a superb synagogue has just been dedicated at St. Petersburg, it would appear that the persecution of the Hebrews by the Czar is not altogether so terrible as has been described. The synagogue is constructed in ornate Oriental style.

In 1892 the Russian railroads carried about 35,000,000 gallons of oil, produced in Bessarabia (along the Roumanian border), in the Crimea, and in the country on the slopes of the Caucasus, the southern side of which is like many wine-growing districts of western Europe.

An English Methodist paper says that a well-known local preacher recently prayed that the Lord would "annihilate the Queen and all the royal family." When he learned afterward what "annihilate" meant he was greatly distressed.

"I dearly love the Queen," he said, "and I thought she deserved the longest word I could get hold of."

Lord Rosebery has become a milkman, one of the most extensive in London, but he does not have his name on his milk wagons, as Lord Rayleigh does, preferring to carry on the trade under the name of his manager. Two other peers who turn an honest penny the same way are Lord Londonderry, retailing coal, and Lord Portsmouth, fruit and garden truck.

A remarkable record in steam navigation was made the other week when the White Star steamers *Britannic* and *Germanic* completed their two hundredth round voyage between Liverpool and New York, 400 trips apiece across the Atlantic, a total distance in each case of 1,500,000 miles. They have carried between the Old and New Worlds over 100,000 saloon and 150,000 steerage passengers. They were built in 1874-5, and are yet working as effectively as ever, with their original engines and boilers.

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